

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, May 18, 2015, 4:30pm, at the Parks Office. Present at said meeting were Pat Flannelly, Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Aimee Jacobsen, Jeff Love and Board Attorney Andy Gutwein. Council President, Ann Hunt also attended. Jan Fawley, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Bess Witcosky, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department.

Pat convened the Board at 4:40pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the April 20, 2015 meeting. Aimee motioned to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The next item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the Executive Session meeting held April 21, 2015. Karen motioned to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Reports –

1. Upcoming Program Dates:

- May 16, 10 am – 3 pm: Mind BoGgling Event @ Celery Bog Nature Area
- May 20, 5:30 pm: Summer Stroll w/ walking safety tips. Start at Morton Center
- May 23: Pool opens with special hours due to delay in school year end.
- June 1: Swim lessons and most summer programs begin.
- June 6: St. Elizabeth Health Fair

2. Pennie Ainsworth, Assistant Superintendent's Report

- a. Softball League play is underway. The first two Mondays were rainouts. Sixteen games have been rescheduled.
- b. We have received \$1,000 from the Purdue Research Foundation and \$500 from the Wal-Mart Foundation for Global Fest. A total of \$11,500 has been raised.
- c. So that we comply with the ADA, Precision Concrete Cutting will be doing more sidewalk, trip hazard, removal in our Parks. CDBG funds of \$6,385.00 will cover the cost of the project.
- d. I have received a request from the West Lafayette Public Library for single admission passes to the municipal pool for prizes for their Summer Reading Club. In the past we have donated 40, they would like more passes if possible. Single Admission to the pool is \$3.50. Forty passes would be \$140 value; fifty passes would be \$175 value.
- e. I have contacted RynoSys Corporation out of Indianapolis to come and do some minor repairs to our pool liner that is on our deck at the pool. We have some tears that need patched and it is pulling away from the diving board frame in areas.
- f. Bess received a request about our Summer Brochure not screen readable on the web site. The IT Department said that the City will have a new web site by mid-June and it will be accessible.

3. Chris Foley, Recreation Director's Report:

- a. The summer staff has been hired for the playground day camp program. There are still a few lifeguard openings.
- b. Pool staff have been making the final preparations for pool opening. We have been working with the IT Dept. preparing the point of sale (POS) computer sales register and the addition of time clock for pool employees. The pool staff has completed their first in-service training.

- c. The Pool season has been adjusted due to the change in the school schedule. We will be opening for the Memorial Day weekend, Saturday May 23 through Monday, May 25. There will be special hours May 26-28, the pool will be open at 5:00 pm for lap swim and for public swim from 6:00 to
- d. 7:50 pm. The Pool's regular season hours will begin on Friday, May 29 – Noon and 5:00 pm Lap Swim, 1:00-4:50 pm and 6:00-7:50 pm for Public Swim
- e. Registration for summer programs has begun. Some Swim lessons for the little ones have filled as well as some tennis lessons.

4. Dan Dunten, Interim Parks Director Report:

- a. Inspection reports of our playgrounds and trails have been completed and filed.
- b. Happy Hollow Shelters 3 & 4 are now available to accommodate visitors, handicapped or otherwise.
- c. WL Municipal Pool is filled with water. The pool should be open for visitors on 5/23.
- d. Margerum Fountain is filled with water, and fully operational.
- e. Mowing has been a difficult task to keep up with, but is being done.
- f. Code Enforcement has requested 3 properties to be mowed this last week.
- g. SIA has donated mulch for use in landscaping and on trails, but not playgrounds.
- h. Morton Center HVAC units are causing problems; parts are ordered.
- i. Installed the Farmer's Market Shade Sail for 5/6 dedication.
- j. Staff have worked towards compliance of the Storm Water Pollution Protection Plan (SWPPP).
- k. We are regularly mowing, raking and lining the ball fields.

5. Bess Witcoskey, Morton Center Director:

- a. Mor'Danc'n Recital was a great success with over 700 people in attendance, including almost 200 dancers. A very special thank you goes out to LaVerne Mikhail, her instructors, and all of our volunteers including Alecia Wiltgen, Angela, David, and Shelby Bisher, Joan Goetz, and Jennifer Barnard. This year we had one of the smoothest recitals because of their efforts.
- b. The Summer Stroll Series will kick off Wed, May 20 at 5:30 pm from Morton. It is themed as our "Safety Stroll" with Officer Janet Winslow as the guest presenter. She will discuss some best practices for strolling around the city.
- c. Morton will be attending the St E Health Fair on Sat, June 6, at 10am
- d. In the News:
 - i. The Journal and Courier ran an article about Bess Witcosky's chat at the Unitarian Universalist Church on April 26.
 - ii. WLFI showed up for a quick interview at our Mor'Danc'n recital and ran a short story on the 11 pm news May 2.

6. Dan Dunten, Stewardship Director's Report

- a. Arbor Day: Every Arbor Day (4th Friday in April) we involve local citizens in planting trees somewhere in West Lafayette. This year I coordinated the planting of 16 new varieties of trees along Kalberer Rd. by local individuals. These included Purdue students, preschoolers from Burgett's Child Care,
- b. Tree Friends members, Mayor Dennis, Parks and Recreation staff, and Smokey Bear.
- c. Conservation Field Day: We hosted this event at the Celery Bog Nature Area for approximately 150 fourth graders. They received training on a variety of topics and

were introduced to a wide range of educational options in the area of Natural Resources.

- d. "Paint The Rain:" I was asked by the Mayor to represent the city on this WREC, Rain Barrel Education Committee. Students from elementary through high school were invited to paint barrels for competition. The judging this year was held in the Lilly Nature Center. Both city mayors were in attendance to support the efforts of the youth and to encourage them to continue their interest in conservation.
- e. Mind BOGgling Event: This yearly event provided an opportunity for youth and adults to learn more about the Celery Bog Nature Area and various areas of Natural Resources. In addition to hands-on activities and hikes, we offered presentations on falconry, monarch butterflies, and wetlands. Each year over 300 people attend this event.
- f. New Wildflower Garden: A group of volunteers from Purdue planted and mulched our new wildflower garden next to the Nature Center. Half of the plants were purchased from a personal donation, plus we used some of the plants we saved from other locations and from a local nature lover (Chad Evans). This garden will add to the enjoyment of visitors.

7. Janet Fawley, Park Superintendent's Report:

- a. Happy Hollow Road to be closed just below park entrance for next couple of months. Follow the link to view the project elements according to their timeline. http://www.westlafayette.in.gov/egov/docs/1428006122_148010.pdf
- b. The trail from Morehouse Road to Trailhead Park on Kalberer Rd is now closed for the next month or so.
- c. Cattail Trail Extension (from WalMart to Yeager) is making progress towards completion.
- d. Staff has begun the work of preparing the 2016 budget. Don't have a deadline yet, but expect it to be ready in mid-June.
- e. Professional staff will maintain a booth at the Farmer's Market the last Wednesday of each month.
- f. Instituted a formal process for approving &/or scheduling staff educational opportunities.
- g. Received notice of SIA grant to be awarded for Celery Bog Nature Area. Will keep you posted!
- h. Interviews have been completed to fill the vacancy left by Lee Booth's retirement. On 5/13, Jon Munn, who currently works in the City of West Lafayette Engineering Department, was offered the position of Parks Director. Jon's start date is yet to be determined.

Old Business

BPR 01-15 Consent Agenda

Jan presented a request for a consent agenda, which would consist of routine items, such as minutes, approval of claims and staff reports. Each month, board members will receive 48 hours in advance those items that are on the consent agenda. Each board member may at any

time, remove any item from the consent agenda to be discussed more thoroughly. No “second”, or vote, is necessary for the removal. Aimee motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

New Business

Boilermaker Aquatics

Chris presented information regarding the request for use of the Municipal Pool for practice during weekly mornings from 6:00-8:00 am during the Municipal Pool swimming season. A Municipal Pool Use Agreement has been generated and consists of the terms, in addition to a user fee of \$425.00 for the season, in which payment is due on or before May 29, 2015. Karen motioned to approve the Municipal Pool Use Agreement with the Boilermaker Aquatics as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette Public Library

Pennie presented a request from the West Lafayette Public Library for their summer reading program. The request this year is for fifty child, single day, passes valued at \$150.00, compared to last year's request of forty passes. Aimee motioned to approve the request for passes as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Purdue Half-Marathon

Chandler Poole, on behalf of the Mayor's office, requested permission for use of the Multipurpose Room at Morton Community Center on October 16, 2015. The room's use will be for individuals to pick up their event packets for the 4th Annual Purdue Half-Marathon, while also providing an easier parking solution. In addition, a request for the fee to be waived was presented. Karen motioned to approve the request for the room and the waived fee as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported on the following:

- The West Lafayette Community School Corporation (WLCSC) was a repeat award recipient for the Best Communities for Music Education by NAMM Foundation. Over 70% of our students participate in fine arts.
- Ross Sloat has been honored with Region IV Business Officer of the Year.
- Jr. High student, Nathan Hu, was one of four members of the IN MATHCOUNTS team that captured First Place Team in the National MATHCOUNTS competition.
- All three WLCSC schools have received 4-star designation from the IN Department of Education.
- West Lafayette Jr/Sr High School has received a Gold rating from the 2015 U.S. News & World Report high school rankings. They were the number 4 high school in Indiana, behind two charter schools and one public school (Zionsville).
- West Lafayette High School graduation will be this Friday at 7:00 pm in the High School gym. West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation (WLSEF) Award Ceremony will be Friday at 5:00 pm in the Marshall Howenstein Auditorium.

Wabash River – Jan noted Wabash Riverfest is coming along and will be held on the 2nd Saturday of July.

Public Comment

Jack Kelley presented a recap of his group's request for pickle ball. The board informed him the request had already been approved. The staff followed up by letting him know the group could begin playing, but without the permanent markings, due to upcoming repairs to the rink. Once the repairs are made, discussion will take place regarding the markings.

Other

SIA Grant

Dan presented information/video pertaining to a grant that Jan and he had applied for, and were selected to receive. The awarded grant is for two Solar Eco Posts and one crank-style post from Tour Mate Audio Systems. All posts will be placed at the Celery Bog Nature Area. Chad Evans from WLFH has agreed to provide the voice-over information at no charge to us. Jan noted we will also receive

New Hire

Jan informed the Board that Jon Munn has been hired as the new Park Director and his starting date is June 1, 2015.

Park Board Luncheon

Jan asked the Board if they are still interested in having the Annual Park Board Luncheon, at which the reply was "Yes". Discussion followed.

Bench Request

Dan presented a request for placing a bench in memory of Marilyn Yount, a walker at Happy Hollow Park. Her family is requesting to place the bench near the bridge by Shelter # 4. The bench will be very similar to the one placed at Celery Bog Nature Area last year, and Dan will take care of ordering the bench. Aimee motioned to approve the request as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Summit Drive

Ann Hunt requested an update for Summit Drive and discussion followed.

Futsal Court

Aimee presented information regarding the possibility of adding a Futsal court in West Lafayette. Discussion followed. Aimee will ask if a presentation can be given sometime at one of the meetings.

Pay Claims

Karen motioned for claims to be paid. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Aimee motioned to adjourn the meeting. Karen seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:22pm.

Next Meeting Date

The next Park Board meeting will be Monday, June 15, 2015 at the Parks Office.

Presiding Officer

Secretary

File: Cheryl/2015Park Board Minutes/Minutes#05/May2015